Reasons for transmission losses

*167. SHRI ALADI ARUNA alias V. ARUNACHALAM: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for the increase in the transmission and distribution losses of power; and

(b) what are the measures taken by Government to reduce these losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) The high transmission and distribution losses in the country are primarily on account of the following factors:—

(i) The investments in the sub-transmission and distribution systems have not been commensurate with the increase in generating capacity on account of fund constraints.

(ii) Low power factor operation of the grid networks due to inadequate reactive compensation.

(iii) Increase in rural electrification which has led to setting up of long distribution lines and which have low load densities.

(iv) Theft of energy.

(b) The State Electricity Boards have been advised to identify elements responsible for excessive losses and to prepare schemes for strengthening of transmission and distribution systems, re-location of substations closer to the load centres and reduction of lengths of sub-transmission and distribution lines. Improvement of power factor has been suggested by installation of capacitors.

The Electricity Boards have set up vigilance squads to conduct surprise raids to detect theft of energy. The Indian Electricity Act, 1910 has been amended to make the theft of energy a cognizable offence. Government have also decided to introduce an incentive scheme for reduction of losses.

Import of capital goods

@*168. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of capital goods that were allowed to be imported for modernisation of industries in our country during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) whether before permitting such imports Government secure any undertaking to the effect that a part of the industrial produce will have to be exported; and

(c) if so, the amount of foreign exchange earned thereby during the above period year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Under the Scheme of Technical Development Fund (TDF) which primarily aimed at assisting existing industrial units in their modernisation efforts, following approvals have been granted for import of capital goods during the last three years:

Year	*Value (Rs. in crores)*
1984-85	32.78
1985-86	27.92
1986-87	35.22
Total	95.92

(b) and (c) Export obligation is not usually stipulated in cases for import of capital goods under the scheme of TDF. However, in selected cases where there is a potential for export of the item of manufacture, suitable export obligations are stipulated. During the last three years, out of a total of 424 proposals approved

@Previously Starred Question 88, transferred from the 21st April, 1987.